



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002.04000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Joseph C. CAUTHEN) Group Art Unit: 3738
)
Application. No.: 10/085,040) Examiner: U. Chattopadhyay
)
Filed: March 1, 2002)
)
For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC)
ANNULUS STENT)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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MAR 29 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING CHANGES

Subject to the approval of the Examiner, it is respectfully requested that Figs. 9, 11B, 11C, and 11D in the above-captioned application be amended as requested by the Examiner in the Official Action of September 25, 2003. The proposed changes are indicated in red on the attached copy of the originally filed drawing. For the convenience of the Examiner, the previous changes made to the presently amended figures, as well as those appearing on the same page, also appear in red.

Upon approval of the proposed changes, Applicant respectfully requests that the submission of formal revised drawings be deferred until after a notice of allowance has issued.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ERACITI', written over a horizontal line.

Dated: March 24, 2004

By:

Eric P. Raciti
Reg. No. 41,475